

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATHS OF OFFICER JACOB JOSEPH CHESTNUT AND DETECTIVE JOHN MICHAEL GIBSON

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, in our democratic system, protection and preservation of the United States of America, her institutions, and her citizens is based solely on the voluntary risks taken and sacrifices made by ordinary Americans.

Woven into the fabric of this great Nation and within all Americans is the notion that freedom is not free. Time and time again our citizens, members of our Armed Forces, and law enforcement officials, when called upon, have answered the call to defend that freedom.

Twelve years ago this past Saturday, two courageous Capitol police officers answered the call and made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and their fellow countrymen. Today, I wish to honor the sacrifice of Officer Jacob Joseph Chestnut and Detective John Michael Gibson. An American President once noted:

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.

People like Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson defended and even gave their lives in the service of this truth that is so vital to our society. That is why we remember them and that is why we will continue to tell their story, so those who follow will never forget the cost of freedom.

Both men served for 18 years on the Capitol police force. Officer Chestnut—or J.J. to his friends—was 58 years old and a father of five. He was a 20-year veteran of the Air Force, serving in Vietnam and Taiwan.

Detective Gibson was 42 years old and a father of three. A Massachusetts native, friends recall his intense love for his Boston sports teams—the Bruins, the Red Sox, and UMass basketball. A friend recalled that just a few days before the shooting, John told him he had never had to draw his weapon on the job. Yet, despite being mortally wounded on the day he died, John did not hesitate to return fire.

This is not only a tribute to Detective Gibson's commitment, it is a testament to the outstanding training and preparation the officers of the Capitol

police force receive to handle even the toughest situations. Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson were the first Capitol police officers to die in the line of duty.

In honor of their sacrifice, a plaque has been placed in the Capitol, and their names have been etched upon the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, as well as the headquarters of the U.S. Capitol Police—fitting tributes to honor these good and courageous men.

My friend the majority leader, a former Capitol police officer himself, knows all too well the honor as well as the risks associated with the job. So as we honor Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson today, we also honor all Capitol police who put their lives on the line every single day to protect us and this institution.

To all members of the Capitol police, we thank you for your service and your sacrifice. We are grateful for the heroic sacrifice of these two men. On this day of remembrance, we remember their families as well. May God continue to look after them, and may God continue to protect all those, like Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson, whose daily work is to protect the rest of us from harm.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KAUFMAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

DISCLOSE ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 3628, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 476, S. 3628, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit foreign influence in Federal elections, to prohibit government contractors from making expenditures with respect to such elections, and to establish additional disclosure requirements with respect to spending in such elections, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I rise today in strong support of S. 3628, the Democracy Is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections Act, otherwise known as the DISCLOSE Act. I urge my colleagues to support the motion to proceed to a debate on this critical legislation tomorrow at 2:45.

We must not forget why we are here today. In *Citizens United v. FEC*, the Supreme Court narrowly overruled almost a century of law and precedent and held that corporations have the same first amendment rights as people and therefore can spend freely on elections from their treasuries. The Court also opened the door to new kinds of campaign spending by labor unions and certain nonprofit organizations.

At a time when the public's fears about the influence of special interests were already high, that decision stacked the deck even more against the average American. As a result, we are faced with a new reality in our democracy: unlimited amounts of cash can now flow into our Federal elections anonymously and with no accountability.

Voting is the bedrock of our democracy. Elections provide the voters a loudspeaker through which they can make their opinions heard. Allowing special interest money to pour into elections unchecked and undisclosed will drown out the voices of the voters. But the Supreme Court decision did leave us one narrow opportunity to make an impact on this new era in campaign spending.

In *Citizens United*, eight of the nine Justices agreed that disclosure of campaign expenditures is constitutional and in the public's interest. The Court held that disclosure requirements "do not prevent anyone from speaking" and serve governmental interests in "providing the electorate with information" about the sources of money spent to influence elections so that voters can "make informed choices in the political marketplace."

By working within the contours of the Court's majority opinion, we have crafted this bill around new disclosure requirements designed to shine a bright light on those who would operate in the shadows. This legislation will follow the money. In cases where corporations or other special interests try to mask their activities through shadow groups, the legislation drills down so that the ultimate funder of the expenditure is disclosed. No more Citizens for Good Government, or People for Democracy—and the ads are nasty and tawdry, but we never know who they are from.

This legislation requires the sponsors of ads to file regular reports with the Federal Election Commission detailing their political expenditures and the source of the donations they received to fund them.

This legislation enhances disclaimer provisions so the public is aware that it is not a candidate or a political party speaking but a special interest or a corporation. We require CEOs and heads of special interest groups to identify themselves in their advertising. Candidates for Federal office already have to stand by their ads. There is no reason that corporations and special interests should not have to identify themselves as well.